625 a
-325: a

1939 FOREST INSECT SURVEY, ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

cc - Craighead R.O. - 4

A survey of forest insect conditions in the vicinity of Big Pines was made by Senior Entomologist Miller, Assistant Conservationist Carlson and District Ranger Sindel on October 31 and November 5, 1939.

The infestation at present is confined to the Jeffrey pine stands along the south side of Swartout Valley. Lower Sheep Creek, Table Mountain, Pinon Ridge and Big John Flat were relatively free of infestations at this time.

The infestation consists of topkills by the pine engraver beetle Ips spp. A majority of the attacks from these beetles have been in immature Jeffrey pine, although a few old mature trees were also attacked. The pine flathead borer, (probably Melanophila californica Van Dyke) has successfully attacked and killed quite a number of Jeffrey pine, mostly immature trees from six to fourteen inches in diameter.

An estimate of the 1939 losses was made at the time of examination. No attempt has been made to segregate losses according to ownership. The estimated 1939 losses are as follows:

1.	Pinon Ridge) Big John Flat)	15 trees
2.	Table Mountain	10 "
3.	Lower Sheep Creek	5 "
4.	Big Pines	45 "
5.	Swartout Valley	35 "
	Total	110 trees

ACTION RECOMMENDED

The preservation and maintenance of forest type on recreational areas is highly desirable. Excessive depletion of the stands from destructive insects can be prevented if timely control measures are applied. In applying control measures there are several factors that must be considered if beneficial results are to be had. These are as follows:

1. Control must be applied to all of the forest type, or to an area of forest type surrounded by natural barriers. Control applied to a portion of such an area will not prevent reinfestation from the untreated portion.

2. Control must be applied at the time when infested trees contain active broods.

3. Effective methods of treatment must be used. Cutting the tree does not destroy the insects. The most effective method is to fell the tree, peel and burn the bark.

4. Proper selection of infested trees is necessary to detect all of the infestation. This requires some knowledge of insects and experience in selection so that differentiation can be made between infested and non-infested trees.

5. Control measures must be applied from time to time in order to prevent excessive losses or increases.

Control action for this area is recommended. It is realized that such an undertaking will require a communal action in which every owner whose property contains forest growth will assist in the job.

S. T. Carlson
Assistant Conservationist

Berkeley, California
November 28, 1939